

The Independent.

PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY MORNING AT
OSKALOOSA, JEFFERSON COUNTY, KANSAS.

Local Department.

J. W. ROBERTS, Editor.
W. DAY, Corresponding Editor.

County Offices.

The newly elected County officers took their places on Monday, except Mr. Gephart, Treasurer elect, who had not returned from his trip to Maryland. He was probably frozen up by the cold weather, or blocked by snow and ice. We believe the new officers are a good set of fellows, and will perform their respective duties with satisfactory ability. Success to them all.

Cold—A Query.

During the recent cold "spell" the mercury is reported at 18, 20, 24, 26, and 28 degrees below zero, within a range of 50 miles circuit; this place being the center. Query: Was the difference in degrees of cold noted, real, or only the result of inaccuracies of thermometers? If the difference was real, why should a few mile separation in the same latitude, and apparently under similar circumstances make so great a difference as 10 degrees? Can any one explain this difference? For example, at Fort Leavenworth, the cold was 19 degrees below zero and at Weston, only seven miles distant, it is reported at 28 degrees below on the occasion. Why this disparity? Is Weston 9 degrees colder than Fort Leavenworth?

A School House.

A good School House is greatly needed in this place, and one should be built immediately. The present accommodation are entirely inadequate to the wants of the District. If the law does not permit a sufficient levy for the purpose let the House be built by subscription, and the subscriptions be taken in the shape of stock bearing interest to be paid out of the building fund until the amount in the District treasury is sufficient to pay the stock back.

Or, if it is thought best, let the amounts subscribed be donation to the District for the purpose of securing a suitable School House.

Frozen to Death.

On Tuesday of last week a soldier was in town who reported himself as belonging to the 21 Nebraska regiment, and who had obtained liquor from some dealer in that destroying article, upon which he became so drunk as to be helpless. He laid down upon the snow, cold as it was, and would have frozen to death in the streets, but for the kind attention of some citizens, who took him into a shelter and the fire. In the evening he started out again—it is said with a dram of whiskey in him—and reached the residence of Mr. H. O. Finch, some four or five miles from town, where he was taken in and humanely cared for. He was in a distressing condition; his ears being so badly frozen that they pulled up and swelled out enormously with a yellowish fluid. The next day he set out for Lawrence, but before reaching that city, we hear he was frozen to death.

Are not those who sold him the liquor guilty of murdering him?

GOING AGAIN—During the cold weather, having failed to get the wood parties had contracted to furnish him. Mr. Smith was compelled to suspend operations at the mill; but it is now running again, with a fair prospect of continuing in steady action for the future.

THE LADIES REPOSITORY for January has two steel engravings of first quality. The Signers of the Declaration of Independence has never been surpassed in costliness by any magazine embellishment. The portraits are all brought out in bold relief—no blurring, no attempt to show what is not, but clear, unobscured likenesses. This engraving alone is worth the price of the number. As usual the body of the work is filled with choice reading matter of the first quality. No one will regret taking the Repository. Try it one year. Poe and Hitchcock, Cincinnati Ohio.

By reference to the letter of our correspondent it will be seen that our boys in the 11th marched that cold Thursday 17 miles; and as a consequence all of them were more or less "frosted" or frozen. That day was too bad to march for either man or beast.

The snow on the Hannibal & St. Joseph railroad was reported to be five feet deep for miles, and solid as ice.

DAILY TOPKAW TRIBUNE.—We have a copy of this paper, whose editor is a member of the House. It is conducted with ability, and is the Weekly Tribune. We notice a change of proprietors has occurred. Shepherd retired, and is succeeded by Andrew Stark. Stark and H. E. Lowman, of the Lawrence Journal, have their names at the mast head as Editors of the Daily during the session. Success to the Tribune.

DAILY STATE RECORD.—Our friends of the State Record are issuing a Daily again this winter during the session of the Legislature. It is well printed and doubtless meet with success. May it prove a profitable enterprise to the publishers.

Army Correspondence.

FT. SCOTT, KANSAS, Jan. 4th, '64. FRIEND ROBERTS.—At last our Co. has received marching orders, and on the 31st ult. all except some 20 men, left Aubrey, and took up our line of march for Ft. Scott. The day we started was one of the most stormy and disagreeable we have experienced this winter, the wind blowing a gale, and the snow being driven before it with great violence, apparently rendering it impossible for any one to withstand its fury. It was a storm such as is seldom equaled, even in our most northern States.

But hot or cold, our orders were to march immediately and we started about 10 o'clock, and after traveling 17 miles across the prairie, with scarcely a house to be seen on the road, we arrived at Ft. Scott at about 4 o'clock. Few of the men escaped without having their hands or feet more or less frozen. We spent New Year's day at this place, while our baggage wagon, which we had been obliged to leave on the prairie the day before, was brought up.

The weather having somewhat moderated though still extremely cold, we again started southward, traveling slowly and with much more comfort than before. The next two nights we camped in well timbered creek bottoms, and by building huge fires from the abundant material at hand, the combined efforts of snow and a sharp north-easter to freeze us, passing both nights in comparative comfort.

We arrived at this place, about noon to day, and are camped on a creek adjoining town. How long we are to stay here, or for what purpose we were ordered here, cannot, as yet, be found out. A train is to start for Ft. Gibson in two or three days, and it is conjectured that we are to go with it en route.

A. L. R.

Kansas News.

The Legislature is hammering away. H. D. Bailey, Esq. editor of Leavenworth Times has returned from his eastern trip. He had a 14 days experience on the H. & St. J. railroad—blockaded.

Dr. J. Dening, Surgeon of the 15th regt., who died recently at Fort Leavenworth was buried at Topeka on Tuesday, with imposing ceremonies. We saw a statement somewhere that he was believed to have been poisoned.

By the official count there were 12,345 votes cast for Chief Justice at the November election in this State, of which R. Crozier, esq. received 12,831—14 scattering. That's about unanimous. Where would Delahay stand in a vote?

The theatricals in Leavenworth are having a big muss. We shall hardly be surprised to hear of a wool picking among them yet!

The time for the payment of the \$4-02 bounty to veterans re-enlisting has been extended.

The Anti-Slavery Fair in Leavenworth yielded over \$1,900.

The Bulletin says it hears a report that the fruit trees have been injured by the cold weather. Hope not.

THE LEAVENWORTH EVENING BULLETIN.

THE LEAVENWORTH EVENING BULLETIN has now been established one year, and is well known throughout Kansas. It is the only paper published here that has been greater than any journal ever established in the West. The proprietors are experienced newspaper men, and their paper contains the latest and most reliable information that can be had of the people of this State.

There are three editions of the paper, viz:

THE EVENING BULLETIN.

Printed every afternoon at 3 o'clock, contains the latest telegraphic dispatches and local news up to the time of going to press. Terms, 50 cents per annum.

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Issued every Monday, Wednesday and Friday, contains the news of the Daily, at 25 cents per annum.

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Respectful attention will be given to the local and commercial news of Leavenworth City, and the State generally. A commercial journal like this will be found unsolicited for accuracy and reliability. This department of the paper is under the charge of a competent editor.

AGRICULTURE.

In addition to other matter, a portion of the columns of our Weekly Bulletin will be devoted to Agriculture. We are confident that every family that subscribes for THE WEEKLY BULLETIN will agree that it is a compensation for greater value than its price. A question may be asked, "What is the price?" It is one dollar a year, and is sent by mail to the subscriber.

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